

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

Date: ~~8-28-91~~  
Edition: ~~WASHINGTON POST~~

Title

JACK ANDERSON and DALE IVAN ATTIA

## Another Casualty in the 'Octopus' Case

**I** great Daniel Casper, the brilliant journalist who thought he was on the biggest story of his life—a story he called "the octopus"—is not the only journalistic casualty to die under shadow the tentacles of that octopus.

Casper's body was found Aug. 10 in a hotel room in Martinsburg, W. Va., his wrists slashed. On March 31, 1990, the body of another journalist, Jonathan Moyle, was found hanging from a closet rod in a hotel room in Santiago, Chile.

Although Casper and Moyle were probing different stories, their investigations involved some of the same people. Both of their funerals are set to occur in Washington, D.C., on Aug. 16, in a somber recognition that each of them was the victim of foul play, not suicide, as authorities first thought in each case.

Casper's death attracted a flurry of news media attention to the story he had not yet finished. His "octopus" theory was that several of the biggest scandals of the last decade were linked in a huge master plan, but the files he left behind provided no smoking guns.

A key part of Casper's theory focused on the eight-year legal battle between the Justice Department and Justice, a Washington computer software company, to determine that Reagan administration officials purchased software and hardware equipment and intelligence agencies around the world.

According to sources who worked with Casper, he believed that some people involved in the alleged software theft were also involved in the Iran-Contra affair, the growing of hashish in

Sudan, Russell before the Persian Gulf War and aiding the release of American hostages so President Jimmy Carter could lose the 1980 election (the "October surprise"). Casper also apparently was trying to prove that the Bank of Credit and Commerce International (BCCI) was a conduit to money in some of these operations.

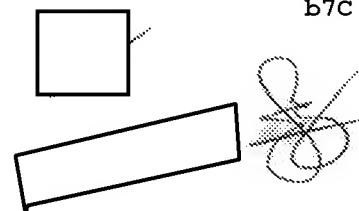
Casper believed that the conspirators he was investigating arranged for Israeli soldiers to be sent to Iraq via business through an arms broker in Chile. News, the owner of Chile's biggest

World of Warcraft, was in Chile last year to attend an international air show. As we reported last August, while he was there he was looking into weapons sales to Iraq by the same Chilean arms broker.

Moyle was never interested in suggestions that the United States buying Iraqi American-made Chinook helicopters to outfit them as attack helicopters for Iraq. Moyle's notes also referred to "helics," an advanced mobile guidance system which led him to suspect that Moyle was investigating other possible Iraq war strippling for or addition to helicopters.

Over the past year, Casper contacted us several times to talk about sales to Iraq, but he appeared to be no further along in the story than any other journalist. Similarly, the details Moyle was chasing about the helicopters were well-known in defense circles. On the surface, nothing that had emerged worth killing for.

There is plenty of speculation about motives for such a killing, especially those who knew them best.

298-WF-  
ser 17/94- Sub Pb6  
b7C

-W-WF-17/94- Sub P -17



SEP 16 1991

62